

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine with ~~which a combination-making game is performed, the combination-making game comprising a plurality of winning combinations, wherein each having a predetermined disbursement number is determined for each winning combination, the gaming machine being characterized in paying out, based on formation of a winning combination, as many a number of game media as obtained by multiplying computed by multiplying a corresponding disbursement~~ number and a bet number a player ~~bet/bets when the corresponding winning combination is formed, the gaming machine comprising:~~

an operating means/device for allowing the player to conduct an operation to increase the bet number;

a detecting means/device for detecting the operation through said operating means/device;

a disbursement number change means/device for ~~changing each updating a disbursement number for each of the plurality of winning combinations so that so as to update an amount order a distribution of disbursements numbers for the winning combinations by the gaming machine is changed as, in response to detection of the operation by~~ said detecting means/device ~~detects the operation;~~ and

a determining means/device for determining each ~~the corresponding~~ disbursement number for a ~~each~~ respective winning combination based on the updated distribution of disbursement numbers.

2. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein said operating means/device becomes operative when the player loads game media, ~~or for a predetermined number of times or for a predetermined period of time~~

~~during the combination-making game that is carried out in the gaming machine.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein ~~said determining means determines whether increasing, decreasing, or maintaining said each disbursement number for the respective winning combination~~ the corresponding disbursement number for each respective winning combination determined by the determining device is one of an increased number, a decreased number and a same number compared with the corresponding disbursement number for the applicable winning combination prior to updating.

4. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine according to claim 2, wherein ~~said determining means determines whether increasing, decreasing, or maintaining said each disbursement number for the respective winning combination~~ the corresponding disbursement number for each respective winning combination determined by the determining device is one of an increased number, a decreased number and a same number compared with the corresponding disbursement number for the applicable winning combination prior to updating.

5. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine with which a ~~combination-making game is performed, the combination-making game comprising collecting a predetermined number of dealt elements so as to make at least one of a plurality of winning winning combinations with respectively different ranks,~~ and determining win/loss of the ~~combination-making game based on a corresponding rank~~ of the at least one winning combination made, the gaming machine comprising:

a bet operating ~~means~~device for allowing a player to conduct an operation to bet game media;

a dropout operating ~~means~~device for allowing the player to conduct an operation to dropout of the combination-making game;

an operation detecting ~~means~~device for detecting that said bet operating

~~meansdevice~~ or said ~~dropout~~ operating ~~meansdevice~~ is operated;

a disbursement multiplication factor changing ~~meansdevice~~ for determining a multiplication factor of disbursement for each winning combination by a lottery and independently from the respective ranks having previously been allocated to each of the plurality of winingwinning combinations as, in response to detection of operation of the bet operating device by said operation detecting ~~meansdevice~~ detects; and

a disbursement number determining ~~meansdevice~~ for collecting game media bet by a dropped out player, and determining a disbursement number ~~obtained from based on~~ a bet number of game media that a winning player bet and the determined multiplication factor of disbursement.

6. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine according to claim 5, wherein the ~~combination-making game~~ is played by a plurality of players including a dealer ~~set displayed~~ by the gaming machine.

7. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine according to claim 5, wherein said gaming machine comprises:

a server ~~being composed of that includes~~ said disbursement multiplication factor changing ~~meansdevice~~ and said disbursement number determining ~~meansdevice~~;

a game terminal ~~being composed of that includes~~ said bet operating ~~meansdevice~~, said ~~dropout~~ operating ~~meansdevice~~, and said operation detecting ~~meansdevice~~; and

a communications ~~meansdevice~~ including a communications line for connecting said server to said game terminal.

8. (Currently Amended) A server for controlling a gaming machine with which a ~~combination-making game is performed, the combination-making game comprising a plurality of winning combinations, wherein each having a predetermined~~ disbursement number ~~is determined for each winning~~

combination, the gaming machine being characterized in paying out, based on formation of a winning combination, as many a number of game media as obtained by multiplying resulting from a multiplication of a corresponding disbursement number and a bet number a player bet when a corresponding winning combination is formed, the server comprising:

an operation a detecting means device for detecting that the player operates the gaming machine to increase said bet number;

a disbursement multiplication-factor-changing means number change device for changing each updating a disbursement number for each winning combination so that so as to update an amount order allotment of disbursements numbers for the plurality of winning combinations by the gaming machine is changed as, in response to detection of operation of the gaming machine by said operation detecting means device detects an operation; and

a disbursement number-determining means device for determining each a disbursement number for each winning combination based on the updated allotment of disbursement numbers.

9. (Currently amended) A storage medium encoded with A a machine-readable computer program code in which a combination-making game is performed for a gaming machine with, the combination-making game comprising a plurality of winning combinations, wherein each having a predetermined disbursement number is determined for each winning combination, the gaming machine being characterized in paying out, for forming a winning combination, as many a number of game media as obtained by multiplying resulting from a multiplication of a corresponding disburse- disbursement number and a bet number a player bet, when a corresponding winning combination is formed, the program comprising the program code including instructions for causing a computer to implement a method comprising:

detecting that an operation of the gaming machine by the player operates to increase said bet number;

changing updating each a disbursement number for each winning

~~combination so that so as to update an amount order allotment of disbursements numbers for the plurality of winning combinations by the gaming machine is changed as, in response to the detection of the operation of the gaming machine the detecting means detects an operation of the player; and~~

~~determining each the corresponding disbursement number for each winning combination based on the updated allotment of disbursement numbers.~~

10. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein the operating device becomes operative for a predetermined number of times during a game.

11. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein the operating device becomes operative for a predetermined period of time during a game.

12. (New) A gaming machine with a plurality of winning combinations, comprising:

a display for displaying information related to a game;

an operating device for to allowing a player of the game to increase a bet number;

a detector for to detecting an operation of the operating device by the player;

a controller configured to (i) update disbursement numbers for the plurality of winning combination in response to detection of the operation of the operating device by the detecting device, (ii) determine a disbursement number for each winning combination based on the updated disbursement numbers, and (iii) cause the display to display a table of determined disbursement numbers.

13. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 12, wherein the detector is for detecting that the player has increased a bet number in response to the player loading game media into the gaming machine.

14. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 12, wherein the operating

device becomes operative for a predetermined number of times during a game.

15. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 12, wherein the operating device becomes operative for a predetermined period of time during a game.

16. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 12, wherein the determined disbursement number for each respective winning combination is one of an increased number, a decreased number and a same number compared with a disbursement number for the applicable winning combination prior to the updating of disbursement numbers.

17. (New) A method for playing a game (i) which has a plurality of winning combinations having a rank relationship, from a top rank to a bottom rank, with each of the plurality of winning combinations having a different rank, (ii) in which a game winning combination is a highest ranked of the differently ranked winning game combinations achieved by all players completing the game, and (ii) which pays out, to a winning player achieving the game winning combination, a win amount based on a disbursement number associated, at completion of the game, with the game winning combination, and on an amount bet by the winning player during the game, comprising:

- displaying, to the players of the game, previously determined disbursement numbers that are currently associated with the plurality of winning combinations;

- detecting, subsequent to the displaying of the previously determined disbursement numbers, a bet by a player of the game;

- in response to the detection of the bet, updating the previously determined disbursement numbers based on a lottery result and irrespective of the rank relationship of the plurality of game winning combinations; and

- displaying, to the players of the game, the updated disbursement numbers, in lieu of the previously determined disbursement numbers, as the disbursement numbers currently associated with the plurality of winning

18. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein:

the detecting of a bet by a player is limited to detecting a bet that raises a prior bet; and

the updated disbursement numbers are the same numbers as the previously determined disbursement numbers, but the association between the updated disbursement numbers and the plurality of winning combinations is different than the association between the previously determined disbursement numbers and the plurality of winning combinations.

19. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the detecting of a bet by a player of the game is limited to detecting a bet (i) no more than a predetermined number of times during a game or (ii) during a predetermined period of time during a game.

20. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the updating of the previously determined disbursement numbers based on the lottery result, includes (i) increasing or maintaining the previously determined disbursement number associated with one of the plurality of winning combinations and (ii) decreasing the previously determined disbursement number associated with another of the plurality of winning combinations.